

Acalanes Blueprint

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STARRING IN THIS YEAR'S CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE, from left to right are Mary Clapp, Peggy Hanson, and Ann Evans. The spectacular, under the direction of Miss Hamburger and Mr. Hansen, begins at 8 o'clock tonight. The show will highlight Advanced Girls' Chorus, the Concert Band, the Acalanes Caroleers, the A Capella Choir, the Boys' Glee Club, and the Advanced Dance Group.

Christmas Performance Paces Yuletide Spirit

Setting the stage for the Acalanes Holiday Season, a lavish Christmas spectacular will be held at 8 o'clock tonight in the gymnasium with some 300 students combining their talents in a colorful festival of music and dancing.

A packed house is expected for the annual Yuletide show, which will highlight the advanced Girls' Chorus, the Concert Band, the Acalanes Caroleers, the A Capella Choir, the Boys' Glee Club, and the Advanced Dance Group.

Rehearsals have been under way for several weeks with Mr. Hansen and Miss Hamburger in charge.

A Christmas overture, featuring long-popular tunes, both classical and modern, will open the program. The spotlight then will turn to the other vocal and instrumental groups which will sing and play selections ranging from "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" to "Joy to the World". Two soloists, Diane Luna and Carol Ansley will sing "Beautiful Savior" and "Silent Night", respectively.

No show at Acalanes would be complete without the appearance of the advanced dance group. Consisting of the 25 foremost modern dancers in the school, the group will, tonight, present the celebrated fairy tale, "Hansel and Gretel", the story of two children who were turned out of their own house, overcame many obstacles including a witch, and finally returned home to the loving father.

The part of Hansel will be portrayed by Ann Evans. His sister, Gretel, will be played by Peggy Hanson. Jan Partland will have the role of the wicked mother, while Julie Busch will depict the father. Mary Clapp will play the difficult role of the uninviting witch. Others in the dance group will have the parts of children and angels.

Perhaps the highlight of the evening will be the grand finale in which all the groups of the music department will participate in the singing of a medley of old and familiar Christmas carols.

All in all, the evening's entertainment promises many thrilling moments. The production might well be considered Acalanes' Christmas gift to the community, and it will truly be misfortune if you are unable to attend.

D.A.R. Award Goes To O'Toole

Noteworthy Pat O'Toole was selected by the girls of the senior class for the D. A. R. Good Citizen Award. She was chosen not only for her friendliness, but because of four important qualities: dependability, leadership, service and patriotism.

When Pat learned that she had been selected for the D. A. R. Award

(which is the highest honor a girl of Acalanes can receive), she explained, "I was really surprised and very happy because I knew it must have been very close as there are many senior girls who are qualified for this award."

A Cappella To Sing At Hospitals

'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the — hospital . . . ? Well, it goes something like that for the members of A Capella, at least.

On a frosty December 22, the seventy voices of A Capella and director, Mr. Hansen, will do their best to brighten the Christmases of the sick at hospitals in this area.

They will sing many well-known Christmas carols as well as the songs they performed at the Christmas program tonight.

Visited will be Martinez County Hospital, between 7:30 and 8:30 p. m.; Kaiser Hospital, between 9:00 and 9:30; and Capwells, in Walnut Creek, between 6:00 and 7:00.

Pat O'Toole was the final choice out of the top three girls thereby receiving a pin and a certificate from a Daughters of the American Revolution representative.

Lucky Pat will go on to take a test in American History, which will qualify her for the district award. If she is the district winner, Pat will compete with eight other girls from their districts to vie for the State Award and \$100 in Savings Bonds. She can attain this level by writing an essay on an announced subject.



Canaries Boring . . . ? Raise Wild Hawks

Have you ever tried to care for and feed a wild hawk with one-inch talons and murder on his mind? Chris McAuliffe and Lee Schneider are brave enough to take on such a bird.

The hawk was brought to them by a neighbor, who found it in his back yard. Its right wing had been shattered by the shotgun pellets of some hunter's near hit.

A veterinarian whom the boys consulted told them that the wing must come off, or the bird would die.

Home again, they taped down the left wing, placed three hot compresses on the right wing, and began to amputate. They cut through the shattered bone and the main artery. When finished, they left one compress on to cool, thereby hastening the healing process.

That was 12 weeks ago. The hawk, named El Sharpo, or Sharpie, has been living in a pen in Lee's back yard. He is fed small birds and animals.

Senior Girls Teach Class At Springhill

In order to help future teachers understand the vocational aspects of the profession, an internship teaching program at Springhill School was in effect from November 23 to December 11.

Eight senior girls participating in the system were Carol Ansley, Lani Ingham, Gabrielle Lapachet, Karen Lund, Judy McKensie, Janet Poulton and Candy Wood. Through faculty and student cooperation, the students are learning the behind-the-scenes routine of education while assisting with a class at first through fifth grade level.

Jobs such as teaching games and songs, reading, correcting papers and arranging bulletin boards were among the many duties of the student intern. From this experience, it is hoped that the student will be able to decide whether or not he should enter the elementary or secondary field of education.

Gabrielle Lapachet, a student intern, exclaimed, "Teaching fifth grade at Springhill was full of surprises for me! I honestly feel that the experiences that I gained will play a big part in my future decisions in the field of education."

Interested senior girls will be given the opportunity next semester when once again they will be able to teach one period a day at Springhill School.



Showing two fourth graders how to use the library is Lani Ingham, who is participating in the Springhill student intern teaching program. Shown with Lani are Mrs. Penny McManigal, her master-teacher, and Mr. Donald Hagen, principal.

Student Council

Reps Ixnay "Sock Hop" Proposal

Are "Sock Hops" the answer to preserving the gym floor? This was the question that was asked of every student in the school at a special home room session. The students decided the verdict of the gym floor — no "Sock Hop". It was officially voted down by the representatives at the Student Council meeting which followed.

With the ever present problem of the size of the Student Council representation, a discussion on how to further limit the council's representation was held at the meeting Wednesday, November 25.

No final decisions were reached, but cutting down on the representation of clubs was put forth for consideration at the next meeting.

The "Sock Hop" crisis was replaced by the issue of color days and more traditions. It was decided that every Friday be "blue color day" until further notices from the council. The Seniors were granted a "Senior Bermuda Day" to be held Friday, April 1. This was the only "tradition" proposed for the time being.

Seventy-five dollars will be donated to the Olympic Fund. A constitution revision committee was set into progress to bring the school constitution up to date, since many students feel that some of its stipulations are antiquated.

It was announced that the next Student Exchange Assembly would be held February 23. The date set for the Junior Assembly coming up was set for January 18.

School Is Expensive

Do you realize that it costs YOU \$397.11 to go to school for one school year? And our parents complain about taxes!

A good lunch and snack every day (45c) amounts to \$85.50 a year.

And then there are all those "patriotic" expenses (game ticket, pom-pom, rooters' bus tickets, etc.) that costs the loyal soul another dollar a week. It's costing you about \$15 just to be a "fan".

Need I mention such minor expenses as student body card, \$3.00; year book, \$4.00; literary magazine, 50c a year; the ten dances a year, \$7.50, and with date, \$15.00; the necessary clubs you join to get that feeling of "belonging", \$1.75, and those end of the year grievances — book fines, \$2.17?

School supplies lop on another \$4.19.

And this year, since they have taken out the bus system, one must drive to school. It costs a quarter every time you start your car, and at least 50c a day for gas.

HER

Don Spirit Mounts As Sharon Leads

"Acalanes, Acalanes, Acalanes High . . . !" "Get that ball back, get that ball back . . . !" are some of the "Hooray for Our Side" chants heard during the football games of the past season.



Out in front of the bleachers, jumping and waving and yelling her head off, you probably noticed **Sharon Delancy** in a blue sweater and short white skirt. The yells that spur the team on to V-I-C-T-O-R-Y are led by Sharon and the rest of the cheerleaders, who try very energetically to put some life into the Acalanes rooting section, which she says could use even more energy.

Sharon is an avid sports fan. She says that she likes just about all sports, both as a spectator and a player. Her favorite, however, is baseball.

She also enjoys modern dance very much. Her plans for after graduation from the hallowed halls of blue and white include marriage and going into secretarial work.

For the moment, though, Sharon is concerned with Acalanes in general, and more specifically, anything connected with the rooting section.

Busying herself with rooting section functions, she is engaged in such activities as a swimming party pow-wow in San Ramon of all the cheering sections of the schools in the League to exchange such goodies as yells and ideas for new routines.

It is her belief that the rooting section improves every year, and that this year's is far better than the one of last year. If that be true, it is undoubtedly in part because of the time and energy Sharon has spent.

WOULDJA EVER

. . . get lost at Mt. Hermon trying to find your cabin? It took Pete Domoto and the gang 45 minutes to get their bearings.

. . . be asked to "leave our fair city of Berkeley until you can learn to behave better"? How does it feel to be ridden out of town on a rail, fellas?

. . . fall asleep in Physiology and American Problems? Bobby Robertson was just soooooo sleepy!

. . . get sick the day before the Senior Play and nearly give Mr. Trulsson heart failure? Was that nice, "Mr. Duffy"?

. . . try one of Tom Sly's cigars and like it? How's that grab you, Pat?

. . . fall in the creek while looking for your cabin at Mt. Hermon? Buzz Johanson and Steve Thompson are still dripping.

. . . go to San Francisco in cut down jeans and sit in Union Square eating cream puffs from Edy's? Char, Sheri and Pam were the wise guys.

. . . bring a "suitcase" to school and call it a purse like Sue Geandrot does?

. . . run out of information to give me for this column? How 'bout it, big brother?

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Editors at Large

By STEVE HALEY

CLEAN UP?

Let's face reality. Acalanes could never win a clean-up campaign against Las Lomas. Not only is Las Lomas a younger school and lacking the soil of years, but Acalanes students are characteristically lazy!

Everybody remembers the dismal sight of our bleachers before they were torn down. If it weren't for our extremely hard-working custodians, the bleachers would have been condemned long ago as a health and fire hazard.

If you are among the majority who don't care, why don't you try putting your papers and wrappers in the trash cans. Even better, if it isn't too much trouble (and your health permits), why not try picking a paper up from the ground and putting it in the proper container.

PONDEROUS!

For years now, Student Council has been pondering its size, but the sore fact remains that nothing has been done about it until this year.

As "the largest Student Council around," according to our principal, **Mr. Walgren**, our governing body has had much trouble in discussing bills and solving problems. An obvious solution which has already been presented would be to eliminate the club presidents who number 19 and make up about 30 per cent of the Student Council voters. Aren't these club presidents defeating Student Council's purpose by representing one person from two up to 20 times, while others who don't belong to clubs are only accounted for once? Is this democratic?

Of course these clubs should be represented in matters concerning them. The only time a club leader should be able to attend a governmental meeting is if a president wishes to bring up a bill, or a bill is put forth pertaining to his club.

The biggest problem in this change is that it must be changed through Student Council itself. The home room representatives would have to get an overwhelming majority to offset the solid club president block. Perhaps a compromise could be reached where club presidents are made honorary members, which would be put down on their records. A sure way to win, would be to wait until the end of the year when personal feelings would not count, but this would not solve **Thorny's** problems this year. It is and will be very interesting to see how our council deals with this situation.

FEATURE TEACHER

Mr. "M" Saw Stone Wall, Jumped & Landed Here

Did you know there is a "once-potential" actor lurking about our school? This devoted student of the theater is **Mr. Richard Mayes**, English teacher.

Mr. Mayes once attended the Goodman Theater, a dramatic school in his home town of Chicago, intent on becoming an actor.

Though it seems he miscalculated the location of Hollywood and landed in Lafayette, Mr. Mayes claims a different story. "After studying at the school for a year, I realized I was without the three essentials of a successful actor: money, talent, and influential friends."

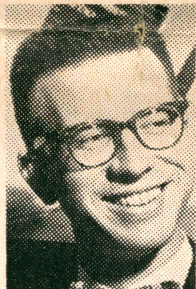
Seeing this "stone wall", Mr. Mayes decided to educate himself instead. He attended the University of Chicago and then came to Cal to obtain his degree and teaching credential.

"Then there was the war," Mr. Mayes added. While serving our country he was stationed in the South Pacific as an Air Force aircraft mechanic.

After all this, how Mr. Mayes happened to find Acalanes is a mystery. But he's here and has been for eight years! He's very happy here and says he likes Acalanes very much. He said that he thinks the seven-period day could have been handled several different ways.

Mr. Mayes is strongly in favor of a teachers' dining room — an inner sanctum of refuge and escape during the noon period.

Among his many duties (English department chairman, English III and IV) Mr. "M" also advises the Acalanes Education Club.



HIM

Bill Showers With Four French Gals

Have you ever taken a shower with four French girls? **Bill Harris** did, accidentally, when he was in Europe two summers ago. He was taking a shower when four French girls walked in and started washing clothes. Bill says this was probably the shortest shower he ever took; he got dressed and out — fast!

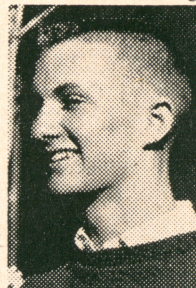
Besides getting involved in crazy situations, Bill also enjoys sports, especially skiing and swimming. He is a member of Block 'A' by virtue of his swimming talents, and senior representative to Ski Club in conjunction with his winter activities. He is a member of A. F. S. and head boys' yell leader.

"The reason I ran for yell leader," says Bill, "is that I wanted to take part in school activities."

However, being yell leader is not Bill's most important goal. He plans to attend the University of Colorado, to become an orthodontist. He also plans to get married to "a girl who wears a black nylon negligee and fills it well." At least, that's what he says.

He is considering another tour of Europe by Vespa with a pal. He will probably go during the summer between his sophomore and junior years of college. The qualifying factor: "if I get enough money by then."

In regards to Acalanes, Bill thinks the teachers should all be women like Miss Root. He would also like to see the senior ball held off campus.



Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

It seems to me that there is a great number of people in this school who seem to lack any ability as far as thinking clearly is concerned. They feel an inner sense of revolt against their environment, and loudly proclaim to everyone their private, unthought-through opinions.

For instance, take the last letter to the editor, condemning the Blueprint. There is, believe it or not, a purpose in putting out the school newspaper. The purpose of school is education — and publishing a paper teaches the kids involved in it how a newspaper is run. Because of this, I think that any criticism of the style or writing techniques of the paper should be directed to the large papers, for setting the example, rather than to the Blueprint, for following it.

There is another purpose to the Blueprint, too: entertainment. I realize that a few people don't like the paper, but I also know that there are more than the first number that do. And let me point out this fact: if you don't like the paper, you don't have to read it — or even get it. And if you object very greatly to the inclusion of the Blueprint charge to the Student Body Card price, why not do something? Form a pressure group and pressure Student Council into once more separating the Blueprint and Student Body cards. This would be doing something positive, rather than negative.

I've just picked the instance of the letter to the editor as an example . . . a highly significant one. If you have a gripe that seems legitimate to you, think it over carefully, find a reasonable solution for it, and present it to the people concerned. **Don't be an "anti-everything" man — think a little.** — Pete Montalbano

SCHOOL SPIRIT

Music Council Thrives On Mint "Yummies"

Las Lomas May Have Answers To Our Problems

By MARCIA WORTHING and KARREN PEABODY

If you think our school government needs some overhauling, maybe Las Lomas (and we hate to use the word) has the answer to our problem.

Instead of one branch of government, they have a Student Council of eighteen which meets as a class each day. These are officers and organization representatives. They have a House of Representatives with a representative from each home room and a speaker. The House meets twice a month with a home room meeting each time. A Council of Organization is composed of the President of the student body, or the elected representatives of the organizations, which meets at least twice a month to work on school projects and problems. There is also a Student Control Committee established for the purpose of bettering student-teacher and student relations.

Along with a possible better government, they have a lot more spirit and many more traditions than we have. This isn't difficult, because we are rapidly losing any traditions we ever had.

A special person is designated secretly, and the first student to come up to him saying, "Lick the Dons" (for the Acalanes-Las Lomas game) wins free tickets to the game. Students race madly around the school trying to find this person, causing a great deal of spirit.

A Don is burned in effigy at least once a year, watched by onlookers with blue and white suckers hanging from their mouths (to carry through the "Lick the Dons" theme).

Teachers even help create school spirit by wearing a pin saying, "Lick the Dons". I'm sure that the teachers here would be glad to wear pins if they were given them.

Las Lomas has some traditions that students around Acalanes desire, but are unable to get. They have a senior hat day, when seniors are allowed to wear any ridiculous hat they feel like with any odd color of hair they want to complete the effect.

Sr. Play Jitters Exposed

By PENNY COUDEN

Someone calls, "Curtain time in ten minutes!" In the gym the parents are taking their seats, and groups of students are standing in groups, talking, or admiring each other's clothes. They are all calm and anticipating a good show, "Meet Me in St. Louis". But, backstage? How do the performers feel? Are the stage props and sound effects in order. Does Mr. Trullsson feel suddenly ill?

Ten minutes 'til curtain time, and behind the curtain we find most of the girls re-arranging their hair, or watching Mr. Trullsson applying pancake make-up and mustaches to some of the heroes. Most of the boys are hardly saying a word. They can't, their make-up might crack. As one of them put it, "I feel like a girl!"

Outwardly everyone is expressionless, but inside they feel: "sick, sick, sick" (Fred Gandel), "numb" (Smidge Wilkinson), "nauseous" (Bill Pinkus), "like an animal" (Al Arfsten), or just plain "hungry" (Carol Ansley).

"Five minutes 'til curtain time," comes the call. The audience is getting settled, and so are the actors. The stage manager, Pete Montalbano, grabs the live cat and everyone hopes she won't escape; Director Trullsson gives the final pep talk; last minute cautions like, "don't eat the candy" and, "comb your hair the other way" are whispered back and forth.

The lights dim, warning that there is but one minute to go. The actors take their places and someone cautions "keep dead quiet like a funeral." Someone moans, "let me out of here." Too late . . .

Candy Sales Pay For New Band Uniforms

Some of the more sharp-eyed of Acalanes students may have noticed a slight growing bulge around the middle of their friends — or even themselves. If you happen to be one of the many in this category, don't be ashamed. There is certainly no crime in experiencing joy at the expense of a few pounds which are in the form of mouth-watering chocolate mints.

Camouflaged behind the candy sale is a big decision by our Music Council. Their plan is to earn money during these sales to purchase new band uniforms. What, you may ask, is the Music Council? This is the governing body of the Acalanes music department, and is comprised of 14 democratically - elected officers of such groups as A Capella, Band, and Advanced Girls' Chorus. These members are: Fred Gandel, Bill Palmer, Totty Spragens, Carol Ansley, Jim Mossman, Pete Montalbano, Bob Sandberg, Betty Theile, Ed Linotti, Lorin Peters, Suzy Norton, Carol Reibin, Jane Harmon, and Joelle Rutherford.

Books Travel On Circuit

Attention, all future scientists of Acalanes! You may be able to get that important bit of information you have been seeking in one of the new science books now in our library.

These books are not ours to keep; they are on loan from the American Association for the Advancement of Science. This organization, assisted by a grant from the National Science Foundation, has compiled a collection of many excellent books for the use of high schools throughout the country.

Two hundred books are divided into eight sections of 25 books each. Two sections at a time are sent to the school. This costs the school nothing except freight charges, which are minimal.

We will have each pair of sections for about six weeks. Miss Fletcher urges science-minded students to make use of these books, as they are only going to be here for this short time.

The subjects are many and varied, covering the fields of English language study, history, many sciences, and mathematics.

Among the books are many by very famous authors such as Rachel Carson, who wrote *The Edge of the Sea* and *The Sea Around Us*.

Some of the books are on display in the glass cases outside the library. These are changed daily so they are available to interested students. Inside, they are on the counter near the vertical file.

Two Clubs Forming

Do you feel left out, craving to exhibit your talents? Perhaps you haven't found a suitable activity at school in which you excel. Here's your chance!

For those of you who are dramatically inclined, a new club has been formed. President of the Dramadons is Tom Sly; vice-president, Chris McAuliffe; secretary, Pauline Martino; treasurer, Tara Connor; and Sue Stone, chairman of public relations.

If you consider yourself an artist, there has been a club organized for you, too. President of the Art Guild is Patty Darling; vice-president, Charlene Blaise; secretary, Nancy Walden, and treasurer, Jack Fisher.

"These clubs have a lot of spirit and seem well organized," said René Roloff, Commissioner of Clubs. "Both have passed their constitutions, are collecting dues, and still accept new members."

Plans for the future include field trips, speakers, and perhaps some school productions.

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SCHOOL SPIRIT**TWO GAL GROUPS LEAD ACTIVITY PARADE****Majorettes Freeze On Cool Job**

When you go to an Acalanes football game do you end up on the playing field at half-time twirling a baton? Do you find yourself adorned in a skimpy little costume with three-fourths of you exposed to all the elements? If so, then you must be one of the six Acalanes majorettes. This, then, is the story behind these girls, Ann Lombardo, Linn Sperry, Diane Fullerton, Marian Treter, Karen Chamberlain, and Nancy Waldman, who, with their chattering teeth, knocking knees, and red noses, entertain with the band at football half-time.

It all starts each year about May. At that time a class is held for those who want to learn the fine art of baton twirling. Anyone can come (boys too?) even if they haven't had any experience. The "teacher" for this instruction, which is held one day a week for about a month, is the head majorette.

When the class is completed, the girls, many of whom couldn't even hold a baton before, are fine material for majorettes. But the hardest part has yet to come. Each girl has to take a test before the Music Council, Band Council, and Band Director. It is here that the best are chosen to be the majorettes for the next year.

The next year the new majorettes have third period with the band so they can practice together. The routines that they do, however, are worked out among themselves.



HAPPY-GO-LUCKY . . . GRINNING AND CAREFREE! This attractive group's only complaint is that they were taken away from their routines momentarily for the taking of this picture. Posing from

left to right, top row, are Diane Peabody, Dee Garfield, Judy Nelson and Sue Jordan. Bottom row: Bobbie Moore, Margie Haight and Carolyn Morill.



THEY SET A GLAMOROUS GAIT—These six charming majorettes, from left to right: Ann Lombardo, Karen Chamberlain, Marian Treter, Nancy Waldman, Linn Sperry, and Diane Fullerton, would

probably rather wear "long-johns" on these cold nights than these skimpy costumes. How about it, girls; a campaign for new outfits?

Pom Pon Girls Start A Tradition

What would you have if you put six energy-packed, attractive, strong-minded gals together? From the looks of this year's group of pom pon girls, you would have something quite interesting. The vivacious sextette is composed of Dee Garfield, Judy Nelson, Carolyn Morill, Diane Peabody, Bobby Moore, Margie Haight, and Sue Jordan. (substitute)

Activities have not been lacking for our pommers since they took over their new jobs. Starting off with a big bang, they took in a dinner and show with our old pommers. Their introduction to pomming, costumes and techniques that they would acquire in the future, began.

The next stop on their schedule was a four-day visit to Tahoe, at Margie Haight's cabin. Besides concocting routines, they managed to squeeze in some water skiing and "early" morning swims.

The girls thought routines were hard, but found they were only beginning when they tried to pick out uniforms.

"All of us had completely different ideas ranging from bloomers and blue and white shoes, to a reasonable facsimile of the present uniform!" exclaimed Dee Garfield.

After combining imagination and sensibility, their costumes turned out to be quite satisfactory.

After creating costumes, they started a new tradition of joint dinners. Above everything else, Carolyn Morill thinks these dinners are "tops" in increasing spirit and relationships between the schools. The first joint dinner with Las Lomas was a huge success. The pom pon girls exchanged yells and ate loads of good food.

"The second dinner was really wild," thought Bobbie Moore. Everyone was "keyed up" and it turned out to be a great success. Our talented six contributed a cake resembling a football field. Even the cheerleaders were present at this party.

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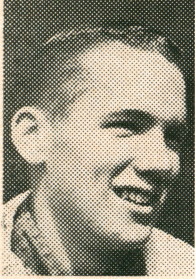
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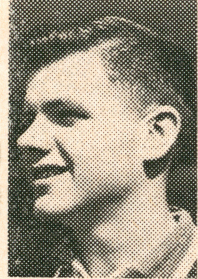
BENCH SPLINTERS

with "PED" and "LAMP"

Congratulations to the four Acalanes football players who were selected to the All-Foothill Division team. **Doug Inman**, **Lou Cosso**, **Jim Holden**, and **Denny Toll** were selected on the defensive unit.



It pleases us to see that our suggestion for using the Del Valle gym has been adopted by the administration. All Friday night home games, of which there will be four this year, will be played in the spacious Del Valle gym. This plan should give many adults, who have been staying home because of lack of space, an opportunity to attend the games. The first game to be held in the Del Valle gym will be tomorrow night against Amos Alonzo Stagg of Stockton.



It has come to our attention that our little cousins from over the hill have made disparaging remarks about our beloved sports department in their "paper?". Now, we have compassion in our hearts for those poor downtrodden individuals who have been forced to attend "that school". But they have pushed us beyond the limits of human endurance this time.

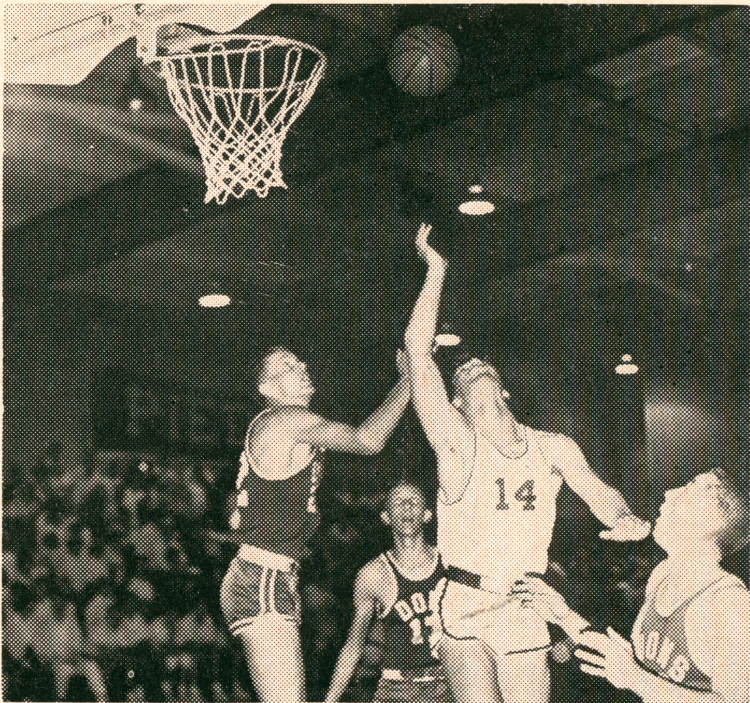
We feel we have to retaliate to the open letter which Miramonte put in their tissue issues. We will answer this with facts instead of cutting remarks. We have already demonstrated our superiority in football, contrary to what the Gophers said in their letter. They say that "they hate to lower themselves to our cuts and satirical remarks." Well, in the first place, we were just trying to stoop down to their level.

Now that basketball season is here, we see that you have finally fielded a team(?), since it only takes five men(?) to play at once.

Don't get us wrong, we at Acalanes have great respect for your paper. In fact, we all roll our cigarettes in it. Now remember, cousin, don't feel bad because big brother is watching over you.

Don basketball fans were given a preview of what to expect in the Foothill Division this year at the recent Miramonte Tournament. After viewing the tournament, it looks as if Acalanes and Las Lomas are the teams to beat, with San Ramon, Miramonte, and Piedmont about even. The Dons ran hot and cold at the Tournament, but impressed with their hustle against Las Lomas. One thing the Dons have plenty of this year is depth, and this will help in the long run. The Dons showed tremendous improvement as compared to how they played against Poly and El Cerrito. The league seems to be well-balanced this year. Although San Ramon, Miramonte, and Piedmont are not in the same class as Acalanes and Las Lomas, they could upset either one.

ACALANES TAKES TITLE AT MIRAMONTE TOURNEY



Acalanes Beaten By El Cerrito

Playing mediocre basketball, the over-confident Acalanes Dons were upset by an unheralded El Cerrito quintet by a score of 47-40.

The Dons, racking up a 14-7 first quarter score with the sharpshooting of **Mel Simpson**, top scorer for the Dons, with 11 points in the first quarter, lost ground in the second quarter, as Simpson was taken out of the game with four fouls.

The Gauchos closed the gap as they out-hustled the Dons to tie the score for 21-21, as the end of the first half came to a close.

In the third quarter, the El Cerrito five pulled away from the hapless Dons, outscoring them 10 to 7, and Mel Simpson picking up his fifth and final foul.

During the early moments of the fourth quarter, El Cerrito began to increase their lead, but in the finale, the Dons narrowed the Gauchos' lead with **Don Nelson** coming in to take over the controls. Although **Tom Strain** and **Chris Rinne**, scoring 10 points each, started to show their colors in the final moments, the El Cerrito lead was insurmountable and the Dons' rally fell short.

As the game ended, the Gauchos had surpassed the earlier Don lead, and triumphed 47 to 40.

Vallejo Beaten By 25-24

Saving off a last-minute rally, the Acalanes basketball team opened the 1959-60 season with a bang as they handed the visiting Vallejo Apaches their first loss in four games.

Although their offense was erratic, the Dons' strong defense held the Apaches in check for the duration of the game.

Vallejo jumped into an 8-7 first quarter lead as the Dons had trouble containing the taller Apaches. In the second quarter, behind the shooting of **Mel Simpson**, who potted 12 points in the first half, and the rebounding of **Paul Colin**, the Dons jumped into a 17-14 half-time lead.

The Dons held on to their narrow lead through a low-scoring third quarter and were in the lead at the three-quarter mark, 20-17.

The fourth quarter was a repetition of the first three, as neither team showed an overpowering offense. The Apaches narrowed the Dons' lead to one point, 23-22. Then **Dave Stegman** hit a jump shot to give the Dons a three-point edge. Vallejo scored again and Acalanes went into a 50-second stall that had the hapless Apaches thoroughly confused as the game ended with Acalanes winning by a one-point margin, 25-24.

Outstanding players for the Dons were **Mel Simpson**, who bucketed 14 points, and **Paul Colin**, who gathered in 13 rebounds.

Dons Win

Playing like the champs of old, the Acalanes Dons, under the fine coaching of **Mr. Glines**, rallied to beat San Ramon, Miramonte, Piedmont, and tie Las Lomas during a two-night Jamboree at Miramonte High School.

Then Dons' first victory came against San Ramon on Friday night. From the beginning to the end, the Dons were ahead, as the Wolves went down in defeat, 33 to 21.

In their second triumph of the night, the Acalanes five swept past hosting Miramonte, by the score of 28 to 19. This game proved to be an onslaught in favor of Acalanes, as the Dons controlled both the ball and the scoreboard throughout most of the game.

Saturday night, however, was the big test. But the Acalanes quintet showed its strength by downing Piedmont 16-14, and tying Las Lomas 25-25.

Playing Piedmont in the first game, Acalanes superiority on the backboard and on the court was too much for Piedmont, as the Highlanders were overcome by the close score of 16 to 14.

Las Lomas proved to be the toughest foe for the Dons, as the Knights, holding a slim lead up until the final moments of the game, were tied up by the scrappy Dons. Lacking in enough height, Acalanes was on the defensive for the better half of the game.

In the first half, the Don five got off to a slow start and trailed at half time. However, in the last half, the fired-up Dons took a quick lead. The lead was short, however, and the Knights went ahead 25 to 23 with six seconds left. **Don Nelson** then threw the ball inbound to **Dave Stegman**, who in turn tossed it to **Tom Strain**, who made a 17-foot jump shot to tie the score at 25-25.

The Dons, though tied with the Knights with three wins and one tie, were presented with tourney title on their superb defensive efforts.

Paul Colin was the only Don on the all-tourney five. **Tom** and **Bob Nichols** of Las Lomas, **Bill Caldwell** of Miramonte and **Dave Shaw** of Piedmont rounded out the rest of the team.



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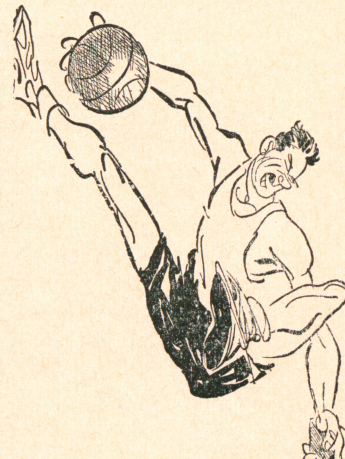
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